



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

determined. Yet on the whole Tagore makes little attempt to trace the growth of his ideas or to philosophize about his experience. His reminiscences are mainly a series of glowing memory-pictures.

But if the book is not very illuminating to a critic, it is perhaps for the majority of persons the most surely rewarding of Tagore's books, and it is capable of casting a spell upon the imagination even of those who care little for the author's poetry. The *Reminiscences* are rich in admirably clear and intimately appealing sketches of character: the poet's own family, his teachers, his acquaintances, are drawn with familiar and playful touches, with shrewdness, and above all with affectionate insight. Moreover, few narratives about a foreign country are more successful than this one in making one feel at home in its setting—though it would be difficult to construct from the pages of the *Reminiscences* an itemized description of any particular place. Impressions of the outward scene and of the social atmosphere are conveyed with little appearance of effort and in few and simple words. Without formality, imaginative experiences and homely bits of family life are mingled in the narrative—all unified by the writer's absorbing interest in life. One passes from a jumble of boyish doings and thoughts—irresistibly appealing in its way—to a perfect episode like the simply told account of young Tagore's journey to the Himalayas with his father. The whole narrative is marked not only by poetic qualities but by a spirit of kindness, gayety, and humor, the adequate expression of which in literature is as rare as are successful flights of fancy.

---

WAR ADDRESSES. By HENRY CABOT LODGE. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1917.

Eloquence in the older sense of the word we hardly expect in public speeches nowadays, and perhaps if it were dealt out to us in as full a measure as that in which Patrick Henry or Daniel Webster gave it to their hearers we should not care greatly for it. The rhetoric of oratory, moreover, is in general less suited to the discussion of perplexing and difficult subjects than the more concise and matter-of-fact style of discourses intended for print; and still further, in the case of such questions as those concerning the relations of our country with Mexico and with Germany the main lines of thought are certain to have been quite fully and intelligently developed in newspapers and periodicals before a collection of printed addresses can reach its public.

There is, however, a form of eloquence which is not affected by a general lack of taste for oratory, or by the limitations of oral as compared with written discourse. There is a kind of luminous simplicity and earnestness in the statement of plain truths and sound ideals that hardly ever fails of its effect. This kind of elo-

quence is possessed in no small degree by Senator Lodge. The major speeches in his book of war addresses contain many patriotic utterances that are memorable for their clearness and dignity. Among such may be reckoned the following sentence from Senator Lodge's speech on National Defence: "In this question . . . lies a test of democracy, whether it is worthy to live, whether it has the foresight, the self control, the spirit of unity, which will lead it to take those precautions which it must take if it is to survive at all in a world so uncertain and so perilous as this." Beside this may be set the Senator's protest against any surrender or impairment of the rights of Americans to travel, or ship goods, upon a belligerent merchantman. "Such abandonment," declared Mr. Lodge in a speech delivered in July, 1916, "could only rest upon the ground that the rights of neutrals, the rules which for centuries have been agreed upon by all nations for the protection of innocent lives upon vessels captured in war, must be thrown aside and discarded in order that a new instrument of maritime destruction shall not be impeded in its work of death and murder." There is an almost Demosthenic clearness and force, also, in Senator Lodge's summing up of his doctrine concerning "peace without victory"—"The peace which lasts is the peace which rests upon justice and righteousness, and if it is a just and righteous peace it makes no difference whether it is based on the compromises and concessions of treaties or upon victories in the field."

Several of the shorter speeches contained in the volume are non-political addresses delivered on formal occasions. They are characterized by grace and suavity and often by wit. Certainly such a phrase as "the heavy hand of improvement," which is illustrative of a certain refreshing quality in Mr. Lodge's style, is not met with too often in any kind of writing. The more controversial parts of the political speeches, too, will delight any not too unsympathetic reader who appreciates caustic criticism, subtle sarcasm, and argumentative skill.

---

LETTERS AND DIARY OF ALAN SEEGER. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1917.

The letters and diaries of almost any soldier who has fought on the right side in the present war possess a poignant interest for us today. We are glad to read even the most abbreviated accounts of personal experience under fire, and to learn the somewhat prosaic details of the soldier's everyday life. But the personal records left by Alan Seeger, the young American poet who enlisted in the French Foreign Legion in September, 1914, and was killed at the taking of Belloy en Santerre, June 29, 1916, have a higher than ordinary value. We have and shall have many stories of exciting adventures